

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device for securely recording protected content to a portable memory, and for reading the protected content therefrom. The device includes a feature that makes it adapted to read or write specially-configured portable memories that are incompatible with standard read/write devices. For example, the device may be designed to work with memories having an unusual shape or size, or may manipulate the data in a non-standard way before storing it on the memory. The read/write devices are trusted components that will only handle the protected content in accordance with rules governing the content. The feature included in the device is preferably a proprietary and/or hardware feature, so that counterfeit devices incorporating the feature cannot be built without overcoming economic and/or legal hurdles. Because of the hurdles to building devices compatible with the specially-configured portable memory, protected content can be transferred to such a memory with reasonable assurance that the content will not be widely copied.

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